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MAY EVENING.

THE GREAT DANGER OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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PITTSBURGH.

What She Is—Her Manufactures—Her Growth—Her Prosperity—Her Future.

[From Disston's Quarterly chronicle.]

What is Pittsburgh like? is a question frequently asked of Pittsburghers when abroad, some answer the interrogatory in one way, and others in another. Yet as often as the question has been answered, we doubt if more than one out of fifty have any idea of the power and force of Pittsburgh, or the nobility of its growth or the value of its future.

The prevailing idea is that Pittsburgh is a place of dense smoke—coupled with an impression that the great purpose of its inhabitants is to present a race of Vulcans and a brood of salamanders, who rather relish a square meal of illuminating coal, washed down by a gallon or two of Petroleum and "Old Monongahela." In a manner these ideas are correct, and in a manner they are not. The air pipe is a prominent feature in a number of rolling mills and foundries, and the "Smoky City" is a familiar appellation. Such a photograph is not unlikely to be made on the mind of every traveler who, on the cars of the Pennsylvania Railroad, reaches the eastern end of the city of Pittsburgh, and for nine miles of track, is hemmed in on either side by a dense mass of manufactories, from the chimneys of which issue forth in the direction of the course and undulations of the river and railroad, huge volumes of smoke. On the hills, on the right of the Steubenville Pike, Andrew Jackson has admirably stated the true doctrine on the subject, in his first message to Congress, by ordaining the law for the residence of the United States Bank, in those words: "Nor is it any objection to the establishment, or one which ought to be considered, that the exclusive right of making and vending bank notes will be granted to a few men or to a single corporation. Every bank which engages in the issue of bills does in fact enjoy this right, and the only restriction which prevents it from being exercised to the full extent of the profits which can be derived from it is the interest of the bank to keep its issues within the amount which can circulate." Such a photograph is not unlikely to be made on the mind of every traveler who, on the cars of the Pennsylvania Railroad, reaches the eastern end of the city of Pittsburgh, and for nine miles of track, is hemmed in on either side by a dense mass of manufactories, from the chimneys of which issue forth in the direction of the course and undulations of the river and railroad, huge volumes of smoke. On the hills, on the right of the Steubenville Pike, Andrew Jackson has admirably stated the true doctrine on the subject, in his first message to Congress, by ordaining the law for the residence of the United States Bank, in those words: "Nor is

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...ccurs in different parts of the ...ntry will place in order renewed ...ligations by writing briefly concerning the ...eroy prospect, also relative to business, improvements and matters of local interest in general.

OUR OPERATIVE TAX.

The public roads of Allegheny county, and indeed those of Western Pennsylvania, never had as good as they might and should be, nor have scarcely passable, except perhaps on occasions when it was that one could see out in good traveling condition six months in the year. Could we estimate the losses sustained by farmers and others having produce to sell, and the tax indirectly imposed upon the consumers, in consequence of bad roads, the aggregate would be surprising. If a tax of two or three per cent. were to be assessed for road purposes, the tax-payers of the county would be up in arms against it, and yet, if the amount indirectly charged were to the impossible condition of the roads were added to the direct tax, the sum might equal an assessment of five per cent. It is one of the peculiarities of our nature that we will pay without grumbling, in an indirect way, the most onerous burdens and quibble about paying the most reasonable assessment levied as a direct tax. A farmer will cheerfully settle his bills for securing timber, fencing, harness, etc., readily pocket his losses resulting from inability to move produce to market or get in supplies from the city, submit philosophically to the depreciation in the value of his horses, and the unnecessary wear and tear of his wagons, amounting in all to, say, one hundred dollars for the year, and yet if this same farmer should be guaranteed good roads at all seasons of the year, on the payment of an annual tax of fifty dollars, he would make one cry of "outrage, robbery and ruin." There is the office not in precisely the same way opposing any taxation for the making of roads upon the plea that they are not interested in them? The fact is good roads help both city and country. The advantages are mutual, and the cost of making the main thoroughfares in the neighborhood of a great city might very justly be awarded to the owners of city property. If a farmer, ten miles from this city, wants to sell a load of grain he must put on but half the usual weight or double the number of horses, and even then the chances are that he will stick in the mud before he reaches the market. The time lost in slow traveling is also considerable, and helps to swell the aggregate cost. In this way the prices of grain, flour hay, and all kinds of produce are increased to consumers, and to this extent one city contributes an intangible tax to the country. We have been speaking enough to disprove the theory that the extension of power, and the acquisition of territory necessarily weakens and endangers the existence of the Government. The flag of the Republic to-day waves over millions of acres where, in the days when the citizens of the republic were accustomed to beware of extending the territory, it waved over thousands. We have not only solved the slave question, the knottiest that puzzled the framers of the Government, and from which they shrank, preferring to leave its solution to those who would succeed them, but we have solved the question of annexation.

We do not desire to be understood as claiming to be wiser than our fathers in their day and generation. The theory adopted by the founders of the Government was doubtless timely. The young Republic could not be too circumspect in handling the elements which, if improperly and especially if unwisely or rashly encouraged, might be viewed as interference with the prerogatives of others.

It was natural enough, and to be expected, that the annexation of the Mexican territories would fall upon the ears of those who were accustomed to diffuse unquestioningly in the footsteps of their fathers like the utterances of oak heresy. But once the shock was over, and men began to discuss the Mexican acquisition calmly, they admitted that progress did not end with the labors of those who framed the Constitution. Gradually the ideas advanced by President Monroe found supporters, and after all the opposition, and the direful results of two systems diametrically opposed to each other. It is the necessary for us to say which of these systems has been pursued by the Republic. Whether we admit it or not, the policy of the Government during the last twenty years has been in direct opposition to that mapped out by Washington. We have ignored the enmity of Spain and France, have made compacts with Russia, and all simply for the sake of extending our possessions and power. We have annexed Spain's enmity, humbled the arrogance of England, and are on terms of perfect cordiality with France as well as Russia. The prospect to-day is that Spain's richest possessions will ere long belong to the United States. We have not to will it to control Mexico, and the probabilities are that Cuba will soon be ours without the trouble of seeking it.

It is clear to us that that which was lost in the policy of the early Presidents is found in the policy of the present Executive. Gen. Grant's magnanimous address certainly foreshadows that from which the early Presidents would have recoiled, and doubtless with good reason. But the reasons have departed with the men and the measures of the past. The United States are now recognized as a mighty power by the greatest monarchs of the world. What would have been unlawful or pronounced in Adams's or Jefferson's time, assumes an entirely different phase in a government that conquered the greatest rebellion the world ever witnessed, and which is able to muster its millions of soldiers at a day's notice.

But, says some doubter, is there no danger to be apprehended from this combination of conflicting interests? The war was not the result of the clashing of sectional interests, but the result of the agitation of the slavery question. In the settlement of that question were sown the seeds of North-western, the Middle and the Eastern States, animated by a common interest calling for the preservation of the Union. We have seen that the principle which bound thirteen States together is not weakened when applied to thirty-six. On the contrary, he must be a chief observer who fails to perceive in it the power of the Union is augmented with every fresh acquisition of territory. Whether we examine the practical operations of the principles upon which the Government is based, in our dealings with the disaffected schemers among rulers, or turn our attention to the south which have attended our international dealings, we find that the object which underlies annexation, and which prompts the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine to the letter, instead of retarding, has advanced our interests in every instance.

CAN DISBURSING AGENT ACCOMPLISH SOME GOOD?

J. H. Moore, Esq., General Agent of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway Company, has presented as an...ort report to J. N. McCullough, Esq., General Superintendent of the Company, on the ability of railroads to compete with water transportation. The communication is in answer to an expressed desire on the part of Mr. McCullough to furnish cheaper transportation for the products of the West to Eastern markets. Mr. Moore adduces tonnage statistics in support of the proposition that the railroad companies between Chicago and the Atlantic cities could earn remunerating dividends at reduced rates for the transportation of passengers and freights of all kinds. The lakes, rivers and canals are now the avenues for cheap transportation, and railroads are considered the most expensive routes of transit. The writer endeavors to show that the great question to be solved by railroad companies is that of rates to compete successfully with water carriage between Chicago and the Eastern cities. When railroads can support products, the year round, at the average rates charged by water from the interior to the Atlantic cities, the toll will have the preference. Of the total tonnage of Chicago, in certain given articles, for the year ending March 31, 1869, there were shipped by water 96,292 car loads of twelve tons each, and by rail 46,936 car loads of twelve tons each—or equal to 180,828 car loads. The total average rate from Chicago to New York, via of lakes and canal, was sixty cents per hundred pounds. Mr. Moore thinks all the tonnage could be carried by rail at an average of nine dollars per ton throughout the year. This would be a gross income from Chicago, of $27,229,200, and commodities now carried by boats to produce an equal income, the gross business to and from Chicago would be $30,810,828. In 1867, there were 396,324 tons of coal delivered in Chicago by vessels, which, together with stone, iron, and other heavy freights, might be conveyed either by rail, in full trains, from Ohio and Pennsylvania, at *one cent* per mile of the silence rates, or, perhaps, one and a quarter cents per ton per mile, which, in the opinion of Mr. Moore, would turn all of this transportation upon the railroads. With double tracks for freight trains, and another for passenger traffic, a single line between Chicago and New York would transport more than five times the railroad and lake tonnage for the year above given. Ninety-six trains per day, of three hundred tons each, could be run eastward from Chicago, at slow speed, carrying an aggregate of 4,449,600 tons per year of three hundred days. This tonnage, at nine dollars per ton, would yield $27,360,000—or double this sum provided the freights from west-bound freight would be the same. The sample per train per mile would average three dollars from Chicago to New York or Pittsburgh. These items of tonnage and earnings, multiplied by four, the number of railroad lines from Chicago to New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, give an aggregate of 96,240,000 tons, counting both east and west tonnage, producing an income annually of $227,360,000.

These facts are adduced to show that railroad lines may be worked, where the tonnage is large, so as to entirely supersede water carriage, when lakes, canals and rivers must be used between the terminal or a long route.

This subject of cheap freights is one of the first importance, not only as it relates to the prosperity of railways, but as affecting the development of the resources of the country, cheapening the prices of commodities, rendering shipments more speedy and regular at all seasons of the year, and enabling the shipper to realize in a shorter time. Now, if the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway Company have for some time been giving this matter deep and earnest thought, and have made considerable progress towards testing the theory so ably set forth by Mr. Moore, that railways can so cheapen their rates as to entirely supersede water carriage.

Mississippi, it seems will not be permitted to take up the Spanish crown unchallenged. The dissensions in the Cortes will furnish a pretext for other claimants to submit their claims. The strongest rival Mississippian will have to deal with, if we rely on present indications, is Ex-King Francisco de Assis of Portugal. The cable informs us that a deputation, headed by Don Francisco Olozaga, a daring leader, has gone to Lisbon to invite the Ex-King to accept the candidature. Whether this is merely a clever ruse on the part of Prim and Sagasta, devised to cover their real designs, or the result of a deliberate plan originating with the Monarchists opposed to Montpensier, is impossible for us to determine. It is apparent, however, that a civil contest would not interfere with Prim's programme. With the army under its control, an outbreak would afford him an admirable pretext for placing his candidate on the throne as a measure of public safety.

As the President's nominations go in the Washington hotels thus out. It is authorized that at least one thousand have departed since the first of the month. These are the unofficials, many who remain, even bound by their first applications have proved unsuccessful, in hope of getting something else. Now that the gates are opened, the pressure on the President is unprecedented. Of the thousands who leave with sorry hearts, probably nineteen-twentieths are fully determined not to be caught in the business of seeking an office again. They have been taught a lesson which will never be forgotten. But their places will be filled by others, and the scramble will go on until we have a proper Civil Service Law.

The Pennsylvania Legislature has passed a bill, which only requires the Governor's signature to become a law, authorizing the Governor to commute the death sentence to imprisonment for life or for any term of years, in his discretion, in the penitentiary of the proper district. Governor Geary, it is said, will sign the bill, and then apply its provisions to the case of Gotsch Eckes, convicted of murdering Theresa Hanauer in Philadelphia, all of whose guilt there is serious doubt.

A strong effective to the condition of South Carolina imparts inestimably a piece of interesting information. It is to the effect that the increased production of cotton is the result of the labors of many people who have recently become possessed of small tracts of land, and to whom, and not the large estate owners, the profits have gone or will go. We suspect that by this that the freedmen are meant. While in one of South Carolina is measurably at least, true of the whole South, and therefore already are the late slave population demonstrating their progress in freedom and capabilities for that condition. The report in question intimates that it is this class of small producers—in the aggregate producing largely—that are becoming really well off, while the old estate owners are nearly as poor as ever. It remains only to be added that the one class work and the other do not. This is a whole volume of political economy.

Relative to the plans at the Executive Mansion, Harrisburg, the *Star Guard* says: In notice in connection with the Governor's Mansion, which has been published in the city papers, and which was copied into the Harrisburg papers, without the knowledge or consent of the Governor, that it was stated in the notice that the Governor had given his consent to the appropriation for repairing the Executive Mansion, which was made by the Legislature, at the request of a Philadelphia committee, to place a fence around the Mansion, and to make other improvements, and for no other purpose. That was an entire misapprehension. The Governor has given no consent to the appropriation, which, he is informed, is to be used for the purpose of building a fence around the Mansion, and he is determined not to sanction the use of the money appropriated for the purchase of the fence.

No one for an instant would suppose that the Governor had anything to do with the appropriation for the plans, for his efforts directed in the interest of retrenchment and reform, and his sense of the fitness of things, forbid that he should lend himself to such business.

The election of a Republican Governor, two members of Congress—defeating Dixon—and a majority of the Legislature is as good a result as could be asked for in Connecticut, considering that the Democrats generally carry the State. As the first State election since the inauguration of Grant, it is auspicious, and indicative that his course is approved by the people.

It is rumored that negotiations are on foot looking to closer relations between the Pennsylvania Central and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroads; and it is furthermore rumored that in case these negotiations fail the Central will, as far as possible, serve the public over "the great West."

The friends of the Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway Company yesterday re-...wanted to Harrisburg a monster petition, praying for legislation that will enable the Company to extend the road to this city. There are some two thousand names to the petition, among them those of many of our prominent Wood and Liberty street merchants.

When we hinted the other day that we thought the New York journals had underrated more than they could well accomplish in assuming the task of educating the New York people, we were not aware that we acquainted with the occupations of the various members. From a list furnished by a New York paper, we now learn that the Board is composed of twenty-one lawyers, two editors, with a pretty strong sprinkling of saloon keepers, horse dealers, corporation clerks, and one honorable member who seems to acknowledge no occupation. Those items in the report of the Committee on Finance of the Board place upon their services. The salaries of superintendent, clerks, etc., for the first quarter of the following this we have the promise from, "for incidental expenses of the Board, $6,000." We do not wonder that the New York journals had fault with those items in the Board's estimates. The total "incidentals" are to be $27,000.

The efforts being made at Washington to have duties arbitrarily declined the place of meeting, or junction of the Union and Central Pacific Railroad companies, provokes some severe comments. The men incorporating these companies were drawn up in a solid phalanx to encourage each company to exert their utmost energies in pushing forward the work, and authorized them to build each-ward and westward until they should meet. The Union Pacific Railway is now completed to Ogden, and some twenty-five miles of track have been laid beyond that point. The Central Pacific road from Omaha to Ogden on the 26th ult. On the same day it was announced that the Central Pacific had reached Reno, coming eastward leaving but one hundred and thirty miles to be completed. It is supposed that a junction will be formed in a few weeks at a point sixty or seventy miles west of Ogden.

They have a valiant set of policemen in Chicago. The other night a large squad of them were frightened out of their wits by the ghost of a woman in white. The story of a commander in force revealed the ghost in the form of a bearded woman, with the upper part of the headgear. One of the force, braver than the rest, fired a pistol at the ghost, after which he could fire upon the ghost. His weapon not being of an approved pattern, he was persuaded to return to the station house, where he procured a good revolver on the next evening. This time the ghost was seen to his employer, terrible frightened, and the force heads of perspiration standing on him. He took his oath that the same figure had appeared at the window, and that when he attempted to fire upon it the weapon refused to go off at him. The ghost, which all this time had undisturbed possession of a vacant house, was finally captured. It proved to be a "confounded" Irish woman, with a family extensive puppy weighing about six pounds.

Andrew Johnson made his first regular stump speech of the present Johnson campaign at Knoxville, Tenn. Andrew informed his audience that he had tried to defend the constitution, and that was the reason why he was not "the fuck, though best in the task, was not begun," and then he took advantage of the ordinary notice based upon the "fuck" to assume the dignified air and tone of a ghost. "I tell you," said Andrew, "as one speaking from the dead there is danger in the throats. Now, I tell you that the only way to counteract the efforts which have been made to deprive me of the honor which attaches to the *role* of Moses, and concluded by exhibiting a certificate of his loyalty signed by Parson Brownlow.

Figures who question the capability of the negro to take care of his own wages, when the opportunity is afforded him, will learn something from the report of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company. An abstract of the report gives a few items of interest. It sets upon our table informs us that the total amount of deposits reaches the refreshing sum of $1,071,429 26. These deposits represent the savings of 10,891 depositors. The report of the abstract presents a table exhibiting the net deposits for 1866, 1867, 1868 and 1869, showing an increase in the ratio from 1866 to 1867 of 91½ per cent., and from 1867 to 1868 of 125 per cent., and from 1868 to 1869, of 125 per cent. of an increase in the net deposits of 1869 over those of 1868. Truly a flattering exhibit, and one that our Democratic friends will marvel at.

The Spanish officers at Nassau do not feel quite so comfortable over the capture of the brig Perry Howell at Sagua la Grande, as the sanguine at Havana were reported to have felt the day after the capture. When the brig arrived at Nassau, there was great rejoicing for a time. The authorities signalled their intention to send a prize crew to take her to Havana, but failed to present when they broke the seals, and to take an inventory of the cargo, but on second thought they concluded the thing was somewhat awkward; they therefore refused to receive the vessel, and ordered her to proceed to Havana. The Dons will doubtless find themselves in a peck of trouble with the English and United States governments at the rate they are progressing.

In proportion as the Spanish troops slaughter the insurgents in Cuba, the cry for separation from Spain becomes more imperative. Valmaseda is bound in Havana because he can't move without more troops. Colonel Rodgers, the American who was captured a few more men. More men are urgently required at Nuevatilla—in fact, the great want is men. Even General Puello, who managed to kill eight hundred rebels at Simaritas with the loss of only six or seven, ingeniously demands more men. The Spanish victories do not seem to be decisive. All the rats they are pigeoning their victories promise to finish an early business.

A Washington letter says: "Wilson was offered the State Department, but doubted his ability, and said so earnestly and in good faith. To give him time to consider of it, Washburne was put on, with a view of consulting that it was an old cabinet only. Washburne, it is said, could not resist the old politician's habit of dispensing patronage, and so got filling the offices. Whereupon two gentlemen came over to Washburne, one Grant, and the other was Wilson, who positively declined the place. And thereupon Mr. Hamilton Fish became consented. This is the talk of very shrewd, well informed men here, and I give you just what it is worth." All of which should be accepted with caution.

The Philadelphia *North American*, alluding to the fact that the premium alone amount to twenty-four millions a year, objects to pensioning the third generation. It says: "Should be passed to the business of granting pensions, or the Government will be besieged by the children of the fourth and fifth generation and as soon as they can be heard. The case which excites the fear of the *North American* is that of a lady who prays for a pension on account of her grandfather's services in the Revolution. It is barely possible that if those grandfathers were here to-day, the most of them would turn over in their graves in a sweat of concern.

The city election in Cleveland on Monday resulted in the election of Stephen Baldwin, Democrat, for Mayor by 1,500 majority. The Democrats also elected their candidates for City Solicitor, Clerk of the Board of Public Works, Water Works and probably Common Pleas Judge. This parting triumph of the Democracy is considered in connection with a Republican ring which managed the candidates for office regarding the party to satisfy their claims. The city gave Grant over 2,000 majority last Fall, and is good for 1,500 Republican majority on any national issue, but the voters were determined in the late election to teach the managers of the ring a lesson, and they did.

There is a good suggestion proposed by a New York legislator, who has given notice that he intends to introduce a bill to make it an actionable offense to speak disrespectfully of the character of a woman when the charge cannot be proved. A right enforcement of such an act would work wonders in some communities we could mention.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A child was recently born in Bennington township, Macoupin county, which has one head, four hands, and four legs and feet. Two arms and hands are perfect, and the other two, starting from the shoulders, are two additional arms with hands imperfectly developed. Below the waist there are two separate bodies joined in one, with four legs and feet. The child was living at last accounts, but it was thought it would not long survive.

The first number of a paper entitled "*The Sugarcoat*" has appeared in New York. It advocates the abrogation of a republican or democratic form of governmental for the United States and the substitution of a monarchy, on the assumption that the former is a failure. The name of the editor or publisher does not appear on the imprint. The leading article declares that "the paper has been established to give expressions to opinions long held and cherished by thousands of intelligent men and women in all parts of the country, who see in the present history of America." It is in the political history of America." It is in quarto quires, containing sixteen pages. The title is ornamented with a crown.

Says the Philadelphia *Ledger*: Four or six banks are, those of New York are worse off, and it is with considerable difficulty they can obtain currency. Even this city sends for them for greenbacks. Within the past week $100,000 drew on New York for some four million of dollars, and Philadelphia is still largely a debtor city. The New York banks are now expanding their circulation, and are paying interest on deposits. They are not only endangering their own credit, but that of their depositors also.

The Government has received information from New Orleans that an expedition is about to sail for Cuba to join the insurrectionary army. This expedition is understood to have been organized by Cuban sympathizers. It will be remembered, visited Cuba about a month since, and it is supposed made all the necessary arrangements for the landing of American recruits. The Navy Department has sent special instructions to Admiral Hoff, in command of the east squadron, to intercept the expedition and prevent it from landing.

The usage and Wine Growers' Association of the Mississippi Valley, holds its annual meeting in the city of Alton, on the 15th and 16th days of April, 1869. Ohio, Indiana, Missouri and Illinois will be well represented, and large delegation present.

The strike of the Chicago shoemakers which began three weeks ago has not ended, although the strikers have utterly failed of carrying their point. Twelve of the heaviest dealers in the city, comprising almost the entire manufacturing interest, have refused to accede to the demands of the strikers, and the remainder of the manufacturers are following this example. The leaders of the strikers are now endeavoring to induce workmen who are in the employ of the manufacturers to join them in a general strike.

The Spanish man-of-war Elano de Saney overhauled the quarter of the town of Sabey occupied by the insurgents, for upwards of five hours with shell and round shot, the vessel being at the time within a few yards of the headquarters of the insurgent general could be plainly seen from the ship's deck; orderlies were riding in and out leisurely, but not a man was seen to run. Then the gunboat Africa did the same thing, and finally the Spanish troops, marines fighting that, and good exercise for gunners.

As exchange, taunting with eagerness to reveal the fact, lets out the secret that all the severe articles that appear in the *Saturday Review* are written by the editor, and then he gives a man's pen, and then asks us what we think of that for a surprise? The query evidently emanates from some simple minded body, who has yet to observe that the severest things said about women are women's utterances.

A Georgia divine has discovered the precise fruit that produced all the wickedness in this world, including, we suppose, his own wicked existence. It is the apple. Fruit is abundant now, or less than genuine Georgia tobacco. This discovery, it is unnecessary to add, does away with the snake. All cold blooded reptiles have a holy horror of the tobacco plant. But perhaps the Georgia divine did not think of that.

There is far we have not made rapid progress in developing the trade of Alaska. In fact, the only thing developed appears to be mutual suspicion and ill will between the natives and the sailors. The latter have learned enough from us that the fur trade has been entirely suspended. The Indians are afraid to approach the town, and the troops were masters of the situation. There is no money in this, but it is difficult to perceive it.

Judge Carpenter, of the Philadelphia Court of Quarter Sessions, in charging the Grand Jury a few days ago, referred to the increase of crime there as follows:

My observation of criminal trials has satisfied me that the same evil exists here which is described to us as the effect of the Southern war on society—a general disregard for human life. The ease with which a pistol can be procured, and the frequency with which it is used, are appalling. Not a week passes that we do not hear of a murder committed with a pistol, and in a majority of cases the perpetrator is not brought to punishment.

A Vermonter letter says: "Wilson was offered the State Department, but doubted his ability, and said so earnestly and in good faith. To give him time to consider of it, Washburne was put on, with a view of consulting that it was an old cabinet only. Washburne, it is said, could not resist the old politician's habit of dispensing patronage, and so got filling the offices. Whereupon two gentlemen came over to Washburne, one Grant, and the other was Wilson, who positively declined the place. And thereupon Mr. Hamilton Fish became consented. This is the talk of very shrewd, well informed men here, and I give you just what it is worth." All of which should be accepted with caution.

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STATE NEWS.

The firemen of Harrisburg are determined not to be cheated out of a display on the 20th of May, if the Mexican monument dedication is indefinitely postponed. They have agreed to have a firemen's parade on that day, to which all the fire companies in the State are to be invited.

The new Congregational Church, in Centreville, Crawford county, was dedicated on the 31st ult. The entire cost of the church was about $15,000, on which there was reported an indebtedness of $1,500—of that balance due $500 were raised at the dedication meeting.

The coal business in the Schuylkill regions is pronounced exceedingly dull at the present time. Many collieries are standing idle, while those in operation are not working to near their capacity. The reason assigned for this state of affairs is the limited demand for coal. The spring trade is reported to be fairly opened, and the miners to work out an extensive supply beyond current demands.

The Columbia Spy says that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will build a new, handsome and commodious depot at Columbia at no late day. The structure will have ample cabins for the requirements of passenger and freight business, and will be erected on a plot of ground now occupied by the Bellview House. The Reading Railroad Company has made preliminary provisions for locating a depot opposite Barr's Hall, and is contemplated by the Daily Evening Mail, at Marietta.

The Titusville *Journal* of Friday says: "On Saturday morning last, Hon. Griffin Brown, while at work sawing the end of a log, slipped at his self reliance in Upper Tidioute, (supposing the head was tightly set,) applied great force to the saw, when suddenly the log rolled and he was precipitated laterally and downward a distance of fourteen feet, striking on his head, back and side lacerating the left lung and partly dislocating the shoulder. He was conveyed to his late residence, where he expired on Wednesday evening.

The Mercer county Agricultural Fair will be held at Shenebora next fall.

It is recorded that the Sons of Malta keep up their organization in Reading. The order is extinct in most of the cities and towns of the State.

The bill authorizing the city of Harrisburg to borrow $20,000 for the erection of water works, and $60,000 for other purposes, has passed both branches of the Legislature. A fresh impetus, under this loan, will be given to the growth and prosperity of the city.

The Philadelphia *Post* says no man can get out of a car window in the interior of Pennsylvania. The Harrisburg *Telegraph* would inform the *Post* that that's the locality where pocket nets are produced for use in the metropolis.

The "Poor Man's Party" in Brown township, Fulton county, has gone to the front at the spring election, by running a ticket, and the thing resulted in the election of a Republican Judge of Elections by a vote of 14 to 11 (seven years) and several other Republican candidates.

A son of Christopher Harman, Licking Creek township, Fulton county, aged twelve years, had work undertook to fell a small tree about the house, when it fell, breaking the tree fell on him, crushing him to death.

The Tyrone *Herald* says the schools in that borough will be closed for a time in consequence of the borough limits having been enlarged, taking in some ninety scholars, without the borough receiving the taxes assessed on the property, through no fault illegality of the town council.

The Reading *Daily Times* has changed hands and is now owned by Messrs. Buck Walter & Edwards as a Republican paper. It is to be issued in pamphlet form and its reading matter will be nothing but an "Indian ring" in disguise.

One of the Indian ring in Washington the other day was required to subscribe to an oath, and he refused to do so, saying that he was a Christian. He replied no, but that he had his eye upon some very fine Indian reservations in Dakotah.

It is said that the theatrical managers are about to bring an action on the Lord Chamberlain, who recently called in the police and broke up their dresses by presenting a counter remonstrance to his Lordship to the effect that the decolette appearance of the ladies who drive in their carriages to the theatre was to them drawing rooms, has a demoralizing effect upon the public, especially the rising generation. A fair hint.

Ex-Mayor James Harper had an accident happen to him on the Traverse Railroad Company of Hartford, his policy being among the earliest issued after the organization of the company.

Mrs. Polly Chandler and one hundred and seventy-seven other women went to Concord, New Hampshire, on the 30th ult., to petition the Legislature against woman suffrage, believing that it would "diminish the purity, the dignity, and the womanly influence of the home by bringing into the family circle a dangerous element of discord, without securing additional strength, efficiency, or wisdom to the government of the nation." Mrs. Chandler is the wife of ex-Governor Chandler, who attended to us by asylum, by custom, and by religion."

Severe but Just.

The New York *Sun*, discussing the income tax, thus describes that portion of highly respectable people who evade the law: "There is a certain class of this city who are always ready to the Government current among well-to-do people, who would be shocked at any charge of personal immorality. They meet their notes promptly, and pay their debts of honor. They can call twice for his rent; and their butcher, their baker, their grocer, and their tailor, with a similar promptness. When a tax even is put upon them in such a shape that they know it is not levied upon their neighbors, they feel it like men. They may be seen at the Tax Receiver's office on the last day, waiting in long lines for a chance to anticipate the payment required by the city on their real estate, and thus save a little interest. They are not at war with our form of government, which is carried on for their benefit. They are its friends, are all partners together, and when any one keeps back the share due from him to help defray the expenses of the firm, he is not only false to the rest of us out of enough more than our share to make up for the deficit. Upon the whole, it makes no difference whether this comes to pass by reason of the fact that to these men the evil of withholding one's name and address from the Assessors of Internal Revenue. We have no sympathy with the spirit of any of the country who either make no income returns, or who, by false returns, are guilty of swindling their fellow-citizens. They are morally as much thieves as the pickpocket or the highway robber.

Bad Condition of English Manufacturing Districts.

The English papers show a bad state of affairs in the manufacturing districts. During two days 1,500 persons were relieved at the Blackburn office, and during the five previous days 1,200 persons were relieved at the Burnley office. Gloomy and distressing accounts of the homes of the operatives are given by those in the habit of visiting, and the prospect is in no respect encouraging. There is a tendency in favor of emigration among the operatives. A number of three weeks, unless some concession is made by the operatives, nearly sixteen thousand of them will be thrown out of work, the majority having fully made up their minds to abide by the only course open to them. It is expected that the bulk of the masters are, and have for some time been losing money. Not six of them, it is said, have finished a piece of work without losing. Stock and yarn have become a drug, and the loss to the trade in this way is estimated at upward of £40,000 sterling, which are in a good condition, but which cannot be held for anything like a remunerative price. Many of the making cloth, gray shirtings, etc., for the Indian market, which cannot be held for anything like a remunerative price. Many of the depressed state of business in that country, and of prospect there is not the slightest sign of improvement.

Shipments of Gold.

[From the N. Y. Commercial, Wednesday Evening.]

The report that arrangements have been made for the shipment from London of $4,000,000 in gold, has at least a great deal of improbability about it. We understand that $2,000,000 of *small* coin has been shipped from London for one house here, in payment for bonds, and owing to the difficulty of selling bills against the bonds, that this must be regarded as a wholly exceptional transaction. At the present rates of exchange it will not pay to ship gold, and to the difficulty of selling bills against the bonds, that this must be regarded as a wholly exceptional transaction. At the present rates of exchange it will not pay to ship gold, and owing

Weekly Commercial.

THE HOUSEKEEPER.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

SUGAR TRADE.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK AT CHICAGO.

IRON AND NAILS.

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

LUMBER MARKET.

CORDAGE MARKET.

BROOM MARKET.

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

PITTSBURGH GLASS MARKET.

TOBACCO MARKET.

COOPERAGE.

TIN PLATES, ETC.

CRACKER MARKET.

BUILDERS' HARDWARE.

STEEL MARKET.

COPPER MARKET.

CARPET CHAIN, ETC.

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

New York Finance and Trade.

Albany Cattle Market.

Philadelphia Cattle Market.

Cambridge Cattle Market.

St. Louis Market.

Cincinnati Market.

Toledo Market.

Buffalo Market.

Baltimore Market.

New Orleans Market.

Milwaukee Market.

Cleveland Market.

Nashville Cotton Market.

Death of a Virginia Millionaire.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

New York Market.

Detroit Market.

MARRIED:

DIED.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1869.

TERMS.

THE DEATH PENALTY AGAIN.

A short time since we offered a few technical arguments in favor of fixing away with capital punishment. We are free to admit, however, that the strongest reasons for such a policy are drawn from the refining, elevating and sympathizing tendencies of Christianity. Whenever this religion has had anything like fair play in working out its legitimate results, it has done away amongst the hearts and then the statutes of men and thus modified laws. The English code, for reasons which the brevity of a newspaper article will not allow us to go into, was more bloody than that of any other country in Europe. During the reign of Henry VIII. 72,000 persons were put to death. This was at the rate of 2,000 a year. Even during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, there was no less than 230 offences punishable by death by the laws of England. But just in proportion as christianity came to be better understood, and was allowed to exert its benign influence upon the hearts and lives of men, the criminal code became less and less sanguinary, until it is nearly as civilized as our own.

The Divine Founder of Christianity summed up the whole duty of man to both Heaven and Earth in two simple precepts — love to God and love to our neighbor. To define the meaning of either sentence by quoting a passage which is reflected with brilliancy upon it from the Priest and the Levite who belonged to the orthodox Jewish Church, and who were so intent upon the performance of religious ceremonies that they had no time nor disposition to relieve the wants of the wounded man lying on the roadside. He, however, exalted the character of the Samaritan who performed the duties of charity. This Samaritan was a "damnable" heretic. He rejected the whole canon of Scripture, except the Five Books of Moses — the Pentateuch, the Jewish Bible. He rejected traditions — all. He worshipped God on Gerizim instead of Jerusalem. Yet because this Samaritan pitied his fellow mortal whom he had seen, and thus proved that he had loved him whom he had not seen, he was held up as a model Christian — an exemplar for all the world, and for all time. In this contempt put upon national ay of blood, and upon dogmatic religion, ay one who certainly knew his own religion, we learn that the essence of Christianity is in doing good.

When a woman was brought before Christ for adultery — a sin punishable with death by the same law which is now quoted as authority to punish murder equitably, instead of ordering her to execution, or taking steps preliminary thereto, He simply said, "Go, and sin no more." Now if He *neglected or disobeyed* the code of the Jews requiring this woman to be put to death, then we have a flight to-day on record which was not binding on Him. If it was binding on Him, then we have a flight to-day on record which was not binding on us. If, however, it was His duties, the same lesson which prompted Him to utter those few words, which no person of right feelings can ever read without being benefitted with its tears, then we argue that it is the time, the temper, the tendency of His religion to forgive, to reform and bless and not to avenge with cruelty and death. It is the gentleness or Christianity, its tenderness and sympathy, as summed up in the word *love*, which, in defiance of the priesthood, and their theological dogma of the ancient times, has softened the manners of men, purified their morals, and ameliorated the codes of law. If society and congress, on the old principle of "an eye for an eye" were the right way to deal with transgressors, why did not Christ set the dogs of the law on the heads of the poor adulteress? Did He think that adultery was a more venial offense, when he let the woman go lightly? We demand an answer to these questions from the advocates of capital punishment. But as in all probability we would take a thousand years for them to find answers, we cannot wait on them so long, but proceed to say that those five words of Jesus, spoken to the woman — "go and sin no more," contain more profound philosophy on the subject, laws, and punishment, and the prevention of crime, than all the codes of ancient or modern times. Upon this wonderful announcement we base the claim that the laws of society shall be preventive and reformatory, not vindictive in their character,—that government shall treat criminals as the father of a family treats a wayward son, with pity and with love, not with vengeance. For as we study the principles of man, and the laws of generation, we find that the character of criminals is formed long before they are born, and that they come into the world *infinitely sad* as well as guilty.

When, therefore, generation after generation of children, with weaknesses and propensities to sin, are ushered into a world where temptation beats them at every step, is it fair, is it civilized, is it christian, for society or results itself into a grim judge to punish these inevitable criminals? We build hospitals for the insane, and the idiotic, and the naturally born blind and dumb. Christianity urges that even prisons shall be hospitals, where the naturally born vicious, the inharmoniously constituted criminal, can be prevented from doing further mischief, but should at the same time be put under *remedial influences*.

But against this enlarged, sympathizing, forgiving spirit which Christianity has breathed into communities and their laws, the argument is urged that the precept of Moses requires the murderer to be put to death. Against all these passages of Scripture representing Him as a gifting father who sends His sunshine and His rain both upon the just and the unjust,—against all the overwhelming and uncontradictory evidence of the Divine benevolence, as seen in the world of matter and the world of mind,—against the whole tone and tenor of that religion which has so modified the age and especially this country, which is the first born legitimate child of Christianity, the Noachic argument for an eye for an eye, a life for a life, is urged. It stands to us very much like the cry of Red! Red! in the case of the Virginia mutineers in 1776, but as it comes from a very respectable quarter, we must bestow upon it a few words.

This famous precept is recorded in Genesis ix. 6, and to appreciate what force it has, we must understand that it is claimed as a principle in jurisprudence revealed by the Almighty after the disembarkation on Mount Ararat of Noah and his family. The first verse of the passage forbids the use of blood for food, because the blood is the life.

The second requires that the blood of the man or beast that takes human life shall not all be taken.

The third declares, whether in the way of prediction or precept we avenge from a doctrinal point, that "whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

Now if there were but these *eight* people on earth from whose loins were to spring a population to take the place of the millions who had been swept off by the flood, it is very natural that a high value should be set on human life. Hence this solemn precept. But if it be binding upon us at all, we must take it as it is, without alteration or limitation. By this law if a brute, which is not a responsible agent, kicks and kills a man, or gores him to death by his horns, it is to be put to death. That law was thus executed long ago. This is the meaning of the word *destroyed* in English law. If a cart, an ox or a man killed him, it was *destroyed*—forfeited to God for the use of the King, to be appropriated to pious uses. But our Noachic friends utterly refuse to execute this law upon *brutes or things*. Who has authorized them to nullify this part of a divine law? If the law is binding upon us now at all it is binding in every particular.

Besides, this law makes no distinction between murder and manslaughter, as we do. Whoever took life in hot blood or cold blood, by accident or design, must be put to death. Thousands of men, in accordance with this requirement, have been suffering merely executed. If the law binds us at all it confounds the distinction we make between the degrees of guilt, and consigns to the gallows every man who sheds the blood of his fellow in hot blood, in cold blood, or in self-defense. If the words of the 6th verse, "Whoso," &c., be of the nature of a prophecy, as we understand it, then we see its fulfillment in the general truth that the bloody men meet a bloody fate. But if the words are simply a command, then the whole law, which is all admirable and purposes, has been abrogated by the Gospel, and we are not under it. Whether we look at it as a prophecy or a command, it is not binding upon us.

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ABOUT PARDONS.

The indiscriminate use, not to say abuse, of the pardoning power, has been the subject of much complaint and criticism among the people of Pennsylvania for many years, and while every citizen will readily admit that nineteen-twentieths of the pardons granted operate directly against the peace, safety and well being of society, still the evil is not only perpetuated, but increasing every year for it is a common thing to throw the responsibility entirely upon the Governor, but this is a grave mistake. It is true, the Executive holds this power alone but when we consider the manner in which pardons are obtained, it will be found that the people are responsible, in a large measure, for the harm done to society in this way. A corrupt Executive may, of his own volition, or through unworthy motives, grant pardons in unlimited numbers, but, under ordinary circumstances, nine-tenths of the convicts turned loose upon society are released through the influence and representations of parties claiming to be familiar with their character and standing, and who certify that they are proper subjects for executive clemency. Our political organizations, ramifying through every ward, township and county, and the activity with which party men of influence and character are always on the alert to secure votes, make so many minds open to the appeals for accomplishing the end sought. When an attorney fails to prove the innocence of his client, and the sentence of the law has been pronounced, he at once sets in motion all the machinery at his command to secure a pardon. All the appliances, moral and political, are brought into action. A wife, mother or sister is sent to importune the Governor, letters from prominent gentlemen are obtained, and petitions signed by carefully selected names are forwarded. It is amazing how easily good men can be induced to exercise their clearest convictions of right and justice for the mother or signing these petitions. We have known instances where men who sat as jurors and judges, in the trial and conviction of criminals justly deserving of punishment, and unfit to mingle in society, have signed petitions for their pardon even before they had been sent to the penitentiary. Those who undertake the work of obtaining a pardon, do not count so much upon the number of names, as upon the social and political influence represented by the signers. The names are never appealed to. Senators, representatives, clergymen, lawyers, politicians, editors, and all supposed to have weight with the Governor, are approached by the pardon seeker, and too often give their signatures thoughtlessly, recklessly, criminally. No citizen who has at heart the welfare of the society in which he lives, should sign a petition for pardon unless he is convinced that the subject has been thoroughly convicted, or that the penalty imposed was not justified by the circumstances of the case and the nature of the crime. If the Governor were pursued more persistently he would be more inclined. The Executive would hesitate long before extending clemency to a convict upon the mere supposition of the counsel or the appeals of his family for sympathy. It is impossible, in the multiplicity of official duties, for the Governor to examine into the facts of each case—and in most cases the *facts* are carefully concealed—and he simply acts upon the representations of others. If these representations are truthful, no harm results to society, and the party entered to liberty is saved from a grievous wrong. On the other hand, if the representations are false, and a great criminal is turned loose, the most serious consequences ensue — the law is trampled upon, thousands of dollars, more times than a score, have to be expended in the pursuit, and under such circumstances public sentiment becomes callous